central point. In a conventional hammock, movement (e.g. rocking) by the hammock occupants outside the center line of the hammock will cause instability (tipping) of the hammock about that central axis. The same applies with the Charlop mounting, which attaches each end of the hammock to the stand at a central point and provides no additional stability related to the end bar.

With the forked Hammock support of the present invention, movement by occupants is stabilized by the attachment of one end of the hammock at the corners of the hammock, not along its central axis. Thus, the Forked Hammock Support Structure avoids instability two ways: in the plane of the hammock (3-point stability), as well as from the bottom legs of the stand (4-point stability). The 3-point stability inherent to the present invention is not present in the Charlop design.

The new claims presented here have been drafted to emphasize this distinct aspect of applicant's support structure. The new claims also correct the informalities noted in the Office Action of January 12, 2005.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: J. W. Gipple

Name: J. W. Gipple, Esq.

Title: Attorney for Applicant

Date: 3/23/05

Attorney Ref. X-9454